

Amendments to the Claims:

1-16 (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method for managing content caches distributed on a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a gateway that belongs to a set of one or more gateways, activity records

that contain statistics about requests for content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations distributed on the network, wherein the caches include content provided by a plurality of content publishers;

segregating the statistics based on which content publisher provided the content associated with the statistics; and

providing to each content publisher statistics corresponding to requests for content, provided by that content publisher, that is distributed in various caches on the network.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising, prior to the step of providing statistics to each content publisher, the step of:

creating an activity log comprising statistics corresponding only to content provided by a specific content publisher that is distributed in various caches on the network.

19. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of receiving activity records comprises receiving the activity records from one or more distribution network servers that received the activity records from one or more access provider gateways, wherein the distribution network caches content at a plurality of locations distributed on the network.

20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein the step of receiving the activity records from one or more distribution network servers comprises receiving activity records originating at one or more edge servers.
21. (original) The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of:
aggregating the activity records from a plurality of edge servers at the one or more
access provider gateways.
22. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of receiving activity records comprises receiving activity records originating at one or more edge servers.
23. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the content publisher can monitor, based on the statistics, requests for access to its content that is cached at a plurality of locations distributed on the network.
24. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of receiving activity records comprises receiving the activity records from one or more access provider gateways.
25. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein activity records are received that are related to requests for content provided by two or more content publishers that is cached at a plurality of locations distributed on the network, and further comprising the step of:
forwarding the activity records to a trusted third party wherein the third party
aggregates the activity records based on which content publisher provided the
content associated with the statistics; and

wherein the step of providing statistics is performed by the third party by transmitting the statistics to a gateway at one or more hosting providers associated with that content publisher.

26. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein a group of network service providers are associated as a cooperative that provides network services, and wherein the step of providing statistics is performed by transmitting the statistics to a gateway controlled by the cooperative.
27. (original) The method of claim 26 wherein at least one member of the cooperative is from a group consisting of a network owner, a telecommunications carrier, a network access provider, a content hosting provider, and a distribution network owner that caches content at a plurality of locations distributed on the network.
28. (original) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:
receiving, by a trusted third party, revenue for the network services provided; and
distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative based on member contribution to the network services provided.
29. (currently amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the step of distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative is based on the quality of performance of the member contribution to the network services provided.
30. (original) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:
receiving, by the cooperative, revenue for the network services provided;
distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative based on member contribution to the network services provided.

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative is based on the quality of performance of the member contribution to the network services provided.
32. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:
receiving at a second gateway an activity log comprising statistics corresponding to
content provided by a specific content publisher; and
transmitting the activity log to the content publisher.
33. (original) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of transmitting the activity log to the content publisher is in response to a request from the content publisher.
- 34-38 (canceled)
39. (currently amended) An apparatus for monitoring requests for content cached distributively on a network, comprising:
a memory;
a network interface configured for receiving activity records that contain statistics about requests for content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations distributed on the network, wherein the caches include content provided by a plurality of content publishers; and
one or more processors coupled to the memory and the network interface and configured to execute one or more sequence of instructions for segregating the statistics based on which content publisher provided the content associated with the statistics and providing to each content publisher statistics

corresponding to requests for content, provided by that content publisher, that is distributed in various caches on the network.

40. (original) The apparatus of claim 39 wherein a group of network service providers are associated as a cooperative organization that provides network services, and wherein the apparatus is managed by the cooperative organization.
41. (original) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein at least one member of the cooperative organization is from a group consisting of a network owner, a telecommunications carrier, a network access provider, and a distribution network owner that caches content at a plurality of locations distributed on the network.
- 42-47 (canceled)
48. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for monitoring requests for content cached distributively on a network, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
- receiving at a gateway that belongs to a set of one or more gateways, activity records that contain statistics about requests for content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations distributed on the network, wherein the caches include content provided by a plurality of content publishers;
- segregating the statistics based on which content publisher provided the content associated with the statistics; and

providing to each content publisher statistics corresponding to requests for content,
provided by that content publisher, that is distributed in various caches on the
network.

49. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform, prior to the step of providing statistics to each content publisher, the step of:

creating an activity log comprising statistics corresponding only to content provided by a specific content publisher that is distributed in various caches on the
network.

50-55 (canceled)

56. (original) A method for improving communication among a plurality of parties providing distribution services over a network for content that is cached at a plurality of locations, comprising:

using a cooperative organization to allow a content publisher to monitor access to
content provided by the content publisher that resides in caches not controlled by the content publisher, by providing to each content publisher of a plurality of content publishers, information about requests for access to the content provided by that content publisher, the information being collected and aggregated by the cooperative organization according to which content publisher provided the content associated with the information.

57. (new) The method of Claim 17, comprising:
extracting from the activity records demographic information about those who request
the content.
58. (new) The method of Claim 17, comprising:
extracting from the activity records geographic information about those who request
the content.